

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 54, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The ability of the *hpa* gene product to catalyze degradation of heparan sulfate in an *in vitro* assay was examined by expressing the entire open reading frame in insect cells, using the Baculovirus expression system. ~~Insect cells are known to produce proteins free of PAI1 (type 1 plasminogen activator inhibitor).~~